Titanophoneus

Titanophoneus ("titanic murderer") is an extinct genus of carnivorous dinocephalian therapsid from the Middle Permian. It is classified within the family Anteosauridae. The type species is ***Titanophoneus potens***.[1] Remains of *Titanophoneus* have been found at Isheevo in Russia.

An adult skull would have reached 80 cm with a heavy long snout. The long tail and short limbs show the species to be a primitive therapsid unlike *Inostrancevia* which was more advanced. The structure of the limbs and the density of the bone are designed for a sprawling stance. The temporal opening is more advanced than Estemmenosuchidae but less advanced than *Inostrancevia*. Total length would be 2.85 meters.

The teeth are large with 12 large palate incisors followed by 2 canines and various smaller back teeth. The lower palate is the same as the upper but without the canine teeth. The appearance of *Titanophoneus* is reminiscent to the sphenacodontid pelycosaurs, which included *Dimetrodon*.

Contents

Gallery
See also
References
External links

Gallery

Titanophoneus

Temporal range: Middle Permian, 268–265 Ma

Pre€ € O S D C P T J K PgN

Titanophoneus potens skeleton

Scientific classification	
Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Chordata
Clade:	Therapsida
Suborder:	†Dinocephalia
Family:	†Anteosauridae
Genus:	†*Titanophoneus* Efremov, 1938
Species:	†***T. potens***

Binomial name

†***Titanophoneus potens***
Efremov, 1938

Synonyms

- *Doliosauriscus*

Life restoration of *Titanophoneus potens*

See also

- List of therapsids

References

1. Kammerer, C.F. (2011). "Systematics of the Anteosauria (Therapsida: Dinocephalia)". *Journal of Systematic Palaeontology*. **9** (2). doi:10.1080/14772019.2010.492645 (https://doi.org/10.1080%2F14772019.2010.492645).

- Vickers-Rich, Patricia; Thomas H. Rich (1993). *The Great Russian Dinosaurs*. Guntar Graphics. p. 36.

External links

- Taxonomy (https://web.archive.org/web/20060117192704/http://www.fmnh.helsinki.fi/users/haaramo/Metazoa/Deuterostoma/Chordata/Synapsida/Dinocephalia/Anteosauria.htm)

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